

Bulletin of Information For the Morris K. Udall Scholarship Nomination Process



THE Morris K. Udall FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIP AND EXCELLENCE IN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Purpose

The Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental Policy Foundation was authorized by the U.S. Congress in 1992 to honor Congressman Morris King Udall and his legacy of public service. The Foundation is supported by a special trust fund in the U.S. Treasury and contributions from the private sector.

Morris King Udall's career was distinguished by civility, integrity, and consensus. For three decades, Congressman Udall served his country with distinction and honor. His legacy has impacted this nation's environment, public lands, and natural resources, instilling in this nation's youth a love and respect for these resources. Congressman Udall also championed the rights of Native Americans and Alaska Natives and used his leadership in congress to strengthen tribal self-governance.

Consistent with these values, the Udall Foundation is committed to increasing awareness of the importance of the nation's natural resources. The Foundation pays tribute to the leadership, courage, and vision of Congressman Udall in the following ways:

- By establishing programs to encourage the continued use, enjoyment, and exploration of our nation's rich and bountiful natural resources.
- By training Native Americans and Alaska Natives in the areas of health care and tribal public policy.
- By training professionals in fields related to the environment.

Guidelines

The Udall Foundation furthers Congressman Udall's legacy by awarding approximately 80 scholarships of up to \$5,000 (and 30 scholarships of \$350 to honorable mention recipients) to outstanding students, to be known as Morris K. Udall Scholars. The awards will be made on the basis of merit to **TWO** groups of students:

- ① Those who are college sophomores or juniors in the current academic year, have outstanding potential, and who study the environment and related fields.
- ② Native American and Alaska Native students who are college sophomores or juniors in the current academic year, have outstanding potential, and are in fields related to health care or tribal public policy.

Two-year and four-year institutions are eligible to nominate a total of six students from either or both categories, although it is recommended that the total be equally divided between them. To be considered, a student must be nominated by his or her college or university using the official nomination materials provided to each institution.

Each scholar receives up to \$5,000, or the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board, whichever is less. Scholarship recipients are eligible for one year of support per application year. Scholarship monies not used during one academic year are not transferable to the succeeding academic year. Scholars selected during their sophomore year may be renominated during the next year's competition. Junior nominees may not be renominated. Freshmen are not eligible.



Who Is a Typical Udall Scholar?

Because environmental issues can be approached in a multidisciplinary way, the scholarship is offered to students from a broad range of disciplines. Majors have included environmental engineering, agriculture, biology and other natural sciences, natural resource management, political science, sociology, anthropology, geography, cultural studies, history, public policy, and pre-law. Likewise, Native American and Alaska Native scholars have come from such backgrounds as American Indian studies, political science, sociology, geography, anthropology, tribal policy, economic development, government, health care, health sciences, and health policy. It is anticipated that the candidate's plan of study will include coursework in ethics and public policy and/or public or community service experience in the area of the candidate's career field.

Other Considerations

In awarding the scholarships, consideration will be given to the student's field of study, career objectives, and the extent to which that individual has the commitment and potential to make a significant contribution to his or her field.

Conditions of Scholarship Eligibility

To be considered for nomination as a Udall Scholar, a student must adhere to the following criteria:

- Be a matriculated sophomore or junior pursuing a degree at an accredited institution of higher education at the time of nomination. "Sophomore" is defined as a student who plans two more years of full-time undergraduate study beginning the next academic year. Students in two-year colleges who plan to transfer to a baccalaureate program at another institution may be nominated. "Junior" is defined as a student who plans one more year of full-time undergraduate study beginning the next academic year.
- Have a college grade-point average of at least a "B" or the equivalent. It should be noted that this is only one of several qualifiers and that applicants will also be judged on the basis of other experience.
- Be a U.S. citizen, a permanent resident alien, or, in the case of nominees from American Samoa or the Commonwealth of the Mariana Islands, a U.S. national.

- In the case of scholarships in the areas of tribal policy and health care, nominees must be Native American or Alaska Native. For the purposes of the Udall Scholarship Program, a Native American or Alaska Native is any individual who is (1) a member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the tribe or band, including any tribe or band terminated since 1940 and any tribe recognized by the state in which the tribe or band resides; (2) a descendant, in the first or second degree, of a member of an Indian tribe or band, as membership is defined by the tribe or band; (3) considered by the Secretary of the Interior to be an Indian for any purpose; or (4) an Eskimo, Aleut, or other Alaska Native. Documentation must be provided.

Nomination Procedures

All candidates must be nominated by their college or university. The Foundation will not solicit or accept applications directly from candidates. The Foundation invites student nominations from accredited two-year and four-year colleges and universities in the United States, including their branch campuses.

The Udall Faculty Representative

Each participating institution appoints a faculty representative to serve as a liaison between the institution and the Foundation. Udall scholarship nomination materials will be distributed to faculty representatives who will:

- Publicize the Udall scholarship on campus.
- Solicit faculty recommendations of outstanding students who study the environment and related fields, and of outstanding Native American and Alaska Native students in fields related to health care or tribal public policy.
- Establish the process to select the best-qualified candidates to be nominated.
- Help nominees prepare for the competition.
- Ensure that the institution's nominations are complete and are forwarded to the Udall scholarship review committee by the stated deadline.



Nomination Materials

The Foundation's nomination materials will be mailed to the institution's faculty representative in September. To be complete, nominations must include:

- Institution Nomination Form, which verifies the nominee's eligibility and formally transmits the nomination to the review committee. This document must be completed and signed by the faculty representative or the nomination cannot be considered.
- Nominee Information Form, which affirms the nominee's wish to be considered for the scholarship; provides biographical information about the nominee's background, interests, and plans; and provides a statement about the nominee's commitment to issues relating to the environment, or issues relating to health care or tribal public policy in the case of Native American or Alaska Native nominees.
- Nominee's essay of 600 words or less, discussing a significant public speech, legislative act, or public policy statement by Congressman Udall and its impact on the nominee's field of interest and career goals.
- Three independent evaluation of nominee forms. The nominee must secure letters of recommendation from a current or recent faculty member who can discuss the nominee's potential; a current or recent faculty member in the nominee's field of study; and another individual who can attest to the nominee's capabilities. One of these letters may be from the Udall faculty representative on your campus.
- Transcripts of the nominee's college grades from all of the universities or colleges that the nominee has attended. Unofficial transcripts may be submitted, but the scholarship will not be officially granted until official transcripts complete the applicant's file.



Scholarship Conditions

To be eligible to receive payments, a Udall Scholar must submit the following:

- An acceptance of the scholarship award.
- An agreement to attend the scholar orientation weekend in August.
- A statement of eligible expenses, certified by the authorized financial officer of the enrolling institution, including those for tuition, fees, books, and room and board; an additional certification regarding the scholar's academic program; and other certifications as required by law or regulation.
- A completed Direct Deposit/EFT Enrollment form.
- Upon the completion of the Udall Foundation scholarship year, a narrative of approximately 300 words, accompanied by a recent photograph, for publication. The narrative will briefly describe benefits of the Udall scholarship.
- All official transcripts.

Payments from the Foundation may supplement, but not duplicate, benefits from other foundations, institutions, or organizations. The combined benefits from all sources may not exceed the costs of tuition, fees, books, and room and board as prescribed by the institution's cost-of-attendance budget.

Deadline

The Udall scholarship review committee must receive the completed nomination package for candidates from a faculty representative by March 3.

Selection Process

An independent review committee will evaluate all complete and eligible nominations and select the most outstanding nominees.

Important Dates

September

Scholarship nomination materials mailed to faculty representatives.

March 3

Receipt deadline for all nominations to scholarship review committee. Please note: internal deadlines at your institution may differ. Nominees should contact their faculty representative.

Late March

Udall scholarship review committee meets to recommend scholars.

April

Announcement of Udall Scholars.

August

Scholar Orientation Weekend.



"I enjoyed meeting and collaborating with other enthusiastic and visionary individuals. Who knows, maybe one of us will be the next Mo Udall."

**Linus Chen, 1997 Udall Scholar
Boston University**



"It was with great honor that I accepted this scholarship, which helped to make my dreams more tangible...I am proud beyond words to be a part of the vision that Mr. Udall promoted during his life."

**Meleesa Johnson, 1999 Udall Scholar
University of Wisconsin, Green Bay**

"Morris K. Udall worked to provide a better life for Native American peoples. Earning the privilege of being a Udall Scholar provided me with the opportunity to meet many individuals who were touched by his life. Being a part of such an important legacy has further motivated me to achieve my goal of providing superior primary health care."

**Waseya Cornell, 1997, 1998 Udall Scholar
Michigan State University**



Before January 1, 2003

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After January 1, 2003

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